

# CAMELFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## ANNUAL REPORT.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year ending  
31st December, 1939.

To the Chairman and Members of the Camelford Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my report for the year ending the 31st December, 1939. The report is set out in accordance with instructions as per Circular 1961 (England) Ministry of Health, dated 16th February, 1940.

Owing to the R. G. returns being circulated later than usual this naturally makes the publication of this report much later and owing to war and war conditions the report is curtailed as much as possible.

### Social Conditions and General Characteristics.

This is much as in previous reports, the district is comprised of 13 parishes, with an acreage of 52,544 acres.

Granite and Slate Quarrying, China Clay Production and Agriculture comprise the chief industries of the district.

Population 1921	...	...	7,730
„ 1931	...	...	7,550
„ 1938	...	...	7,078
„ 1939	...	...	6,999 (Mid. 1939)

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1939) according to Rate Books—2325.

Total Rateable Value, 1939	...	...	£21,687
„ „ 1938	...	...	£21,876
Total Penny Rate Product, 1939	...	£92 10 8	
„ „ 1938	...	£84 12 0	

### Vital Statistics.

	M	F.
All causes	43	46
Respiratory Tuberculosis	1	
Cancer	10	4
Diabetes	1	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	4	4
Heart Disease	7	13
Other circulatory diseases		2
Bronchitis	2	
Pneumonia	2	2
Other respiratory diseases	1	
Nephritis		1
Senility	1	7
Other violence	1	4
Other defined causes	4	3
Influenza	3	2
Other digestive disorders	1	2
Congenital debility, premature birth	1	
Diphtheria	1	



Live Births	}	Legitimate	...	Total	M.	F.	}	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population Mid-1939 9'55
		Illegitimate	...	64	37	27		
Stillbirths	}	Legitimate	...	5	1	3		
		Illegitimate	...		1			
Deaths			...	89	43	46		Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 12'72

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) :—

No. 29 Puerperal sepsis	Nil
No. 30 Other Puerperal diseases	Nil
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	... 3
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	... 14
„ Measles (all ages)	... Nil
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	... Nil
„ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	... 2
Total number of Births	... 67
Total number of Deaths	... 89
Number of Deaths from Cancer	... 14
Number of Deaths from Heart Disease	... 8
Number of Deaths from Bronchitis	... 2

## Water.

Analysis were made during the year of all the Main Supplies which were satisfactory in every case.

## Drainage and Sewerage.

Plans had been prepared for schemes of Sewerage Disposal for St. Breward, Delabole and St. Teath. Unfortunately this has had to be shelved for the period of the war, and little will be gained by further comment at this time.

## Streams and Rivers, Swimming Baths, Pools, Playing Fields and open spaces.

Nothing need be reported under these headings at the present time.

## Rag Flock Act, 1911—1928, Smoke Abatement, Foods.

No action necessary during the year.

## Legislation and Bye-Laws in force.

This is the same as in previous Reports with the exception that the New Building Bye-Laws were confirmed by the Ministry on the 13th December, 1939, and came into operation on the 1st January, 1940.

## Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shop Order.

There is little fresh to record under this heading. It is gratifying to note that more are coming on the Accredited Producers Milk Roll every year.

## Housing.

The Housing Rural Workers' Act has accomplished much good work. This and other Housing Acts have been responsible for big improvements of Housing conditions generally.



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Notifiable Diseases during the Year, 1939

Disease.				Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	11	Nil	Nil
Diphtheria	...	...	...	1	Nil	Nil
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Pneumonia	...	...	...	5	Nil	4
Erysipelas	...	...	...	2	Nil	Nil
Measles	...	...	...	1	Nil	Nil

Tuberculosis.

New Cases of Mortality during 1939.

Age Periods.			New Cases.				Deaths.			
			Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...								
1	...	...								
5	...	...								
15	...	...								
25	...	...								
35	...	...		1						
45	...	...								
55	...	...								
65 and upwards	...	...								
Totals	...	...		1						

The general condition of the district has been most satisfactory throughout the year.

It will be noticed with satisfaction that only one case of T.B. was notified during the year.

Epidemics of Infectious diseases have been slight. With regard to Diphtheria, only one case was notified in the course of 12 months.

In the latter part of the year the Immunization of the children of the district was considered and the procedure adopted. Notices were sent to all schools in the area and information conveyed to all parents that children between the ages of 2 and 15 years might be immunized at the Council's expense.

The result of this was that approximately 50% of the children have now received treatment.

Out of a total number of 888 scholars, excluding the Camelford Grammar School, 400 received immunization inoculation and 40 infants under school age were treated.

The method adopted was the use of P. D. & Co's. Alum precipitated Diphtheria Toxoid, two injections being given to each child at an interval of 4 weeks. There was not one single case reported of any trouble from the injections.

Since the method was adopted, there have been several evacuees admitted to the district and the offer of immunization is now to be extended for the benefit of any children who have not yet been so treated.

I am, Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

*John Haydon*

Medical Officer of Health.

10th October, 1940.

